



Community Radio Tucson

August 22, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary,
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: MM Docket No. 99-25 (LPFM Proceeding)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Community Radio Tucson is a group formed to serve as an information and support hub for anyone in the Tucson community who is interested in Low Power FM Radio licenses. We have contacted numerous groups and individuals here in Tucson who are interested in either applying for a license and/or providing locally produced programs for new LPFM stations here in town.

Tucson is blessed with KXCI, our one great listener-sponsored station that broadcasts mainly musical content to a large segment of town. Unfortunately, that's not enough for a community of nearly one million people. Most of the rest of the radio airwaves in Tucson are filled with religious broadcasters syndicated music, talk shows with redundant and singular viewpoints and one NPR corporation.

We are a vibrant community operating in the "poorest major city in the Sunbelt"[1]. We are faced with an acute budget crisis, impending water and resource shortages and the "sickest housing market" in the nation.[2] There's almost no deep discussion of these issues heard on local commercial radio.

We have hundreds of great groups and people working hard for a sustainable future in Tucson but who rarely hear of one another. We are in desperate need of media that can work to unite and share our vibrant cultural assets between the diverse communities within our city. We are in vital need of more local information so that we may make more well informed democratic decisions.

We need more voices on our airwaves. We need more communication between our numerous local efforts, groups and organizations. We have an exciting local music and art scene that is under-represented on the local airwaves.

We've learned that there is a floor of 6 stations proposed for our 100 square miles of city limits. We have 10 radio slots available and we are burdened with 59 translator applications. We ask for approval of at least one of KXCI's applications and dismissal of the rest.

These are among the reasons we, the undersigned, urge you to preserve the majority of radio slots for active community LPFM radio stations. In addition, we urge you to reexamine the geography of our area with an eye toward granting even more license slots within our 100 square-mile city limits.

[1] *Off-The-Charts-Poor*

<http://www.tucsonweekly.com/tucson/off-the-charts-poor/Content?oid=3028470>

[2] *Tucson top of sick list for housing markets*

<http://finance.yahoo.com/real-estate/article/113245/americas-sickest-housing-markets-247wallst>